

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /158 W

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R 101718Z AUG 73

FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 124

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L JEC PARIS 21664

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS, XA, XF

SUBJECT: ISSUE OF PRG AT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE

REF: SECSTATE 152754

1. (SUMMARY) PHONG OF GVNDEL HAS BEEN TOLD HE WILL HEAD A DELEGATION OF VISIT ARAB COUNTRIES IN CONNECTION WITH NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. PHONG HAS TOLD MFA HE BELIEVES ENTIRE PROPOSED PROGRAM OF VISITS WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. (END SUMMARY).

2. NGUYEN XUAN PHONG, DEPUTY CHIEF OF GVN DELEGATION TO GVN/PRG TALKS, TOLD DELOFF AUGUST 10 THAT GVN PLANNED TO SEND HIM TO SEVERAL ARAB COUNTRIES TO URGE THEM NOT TO RECOGNIZE PRG AT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. PHONG WOULD HEAD DELGATION OF SENATORS AND DEPUTIES WHICH WOULD VISIT AT LEAST KUWAIT, BAHRAIN AND JORDAN.

3. PHONG SAID HE HAD SENT LONG CABLE TO MFA URGING WHOLE IDEA OF SENDING DELEGATIONS TO A LARGE NUMBER OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES BE CANCELLED. IN PHONG'S VIEW, VAST MAJORITY OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES, FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, WERE ALREADY FAVORABLE TO PRG AND APPROACH BY  
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GVN DELEGATIONS AT THIS LATE DATE WOULD ONLY HARDEN

PRO-PRG ATTITUDES AND PROVIDE OCCASION FOR PRG PROPAGANDA ON SUCH ISSUES AS RELEASE OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS. GVN DELEGATIONS WOULD BE HANDICAPPED IN ARAB COUNTRIES BECAUSE OF GVN'S FRIENDLY TIES WITH ISRAEL.

4. PHONG BELIEVED BEST GVN TACTIC FOR SHORT TERM WOULD BE FOR FRIENDLY COUNTRIES SUCH AS LAOS, MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA TO DEFEND GVN AS STOUTLY AS POSSIBLE AT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. IN LONGER RUN, GVN SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO IMPROVE ITS DIPLOMATIC POSITION BY CARRYING ON A BROAD PROGRAM OF DISCREET DIPLOMACY INCLUDING PRESIDENTIAL ENVOYS AND MESSAGES.

5. AS EXAMPLE OF WRONG APPROACH PHONG MENTIONED SENEGAL'S RECOGNITION OF PRG. AFTER GOS ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS RECOGNITION GVN SHOULD HAVE QUIETLY SENT A PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY TO TRY TO PERSUADE PRESIDENT SENGHOR TO AT LEAST GO SLOW IN IMPLEMENTING DECISION. INSTEAD SAIGON ISSUED A PUBLIC STATEMENT WHICH FORCED SENEGAL TO REAFFIRM ITS POSITION. PHONG REMARKED THAT SENEGAL PRESENTED GVN WITH FIRST CASE OF PROBLEM, AS YET UNRESOLVED, OF HOW TO DEAL WITH COUNTRIES THAT RECOGNIZE TWO GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTH VIET-NAM.

6. GVN DELEGATION CHIEF NGUYEN LUU VIEN IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT TUNISIA, WHICH IN PHONG'S OPINION POSES LESS OF A PROBLEM BECAUSE GVN MAINTAINS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS THERE. HOWEVER, BOURGUIBA HAS NOT YET SET A DATE.

7. PHONG'S TRIP, IF IT TAKES PLACE, WILL BEGIN ABOUT AUGUST 17, BUT SCHEDULE IS NOT YET FIRM.

8. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS DESIRED.  
MOSSLER

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## Message Attributes

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